Application No. 09/998,895
Amendment dated November 21, 2005
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure Examining Group 2176

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for using workflows, comprising the steps of:
associating workflows with domains in a data structure, each domain identifies a portion of said data structure;
receiving a request to perform a task that pertains to said data structure; and
performing a first workflow for said task, said first workflow is associated with a first domain that includes a target of said ~~request.~~ request;
wherein:
said first workflow comprises a predefined set of steps that perform said task, said predefined set of steps comprising a first step and a second step;
said first step is performed by a first program;
said second step is performed by a second program;
information is passed between said first program and said second program according to a defined set of rules; and
at least one of the first program and the second program is external to the workflow.

2.   (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said step of associating includes associating said first workflow with said first domain, said step of associating said first workflow includes choosing a first entry in said data structure, said data structure is a hierarchical data structure, said first domain includes said first entry and entries below said first entry.

3.   (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein:

said step of performing includes identifying one or more workflows associated with said target.

4.   (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said request includes an identification of said target;

said step of performing includes identifying a set of one more workflows that perform said task and are associated with domains that include said target, said set of one more workflows includes said first workflow.

5.   (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein:

said request is a request to delete said target.

6.   (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein:

said request is a request to modify said target.

7.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said request includes an identification of said target; and

said step of performing includes the steps of:

identifying a set of one more workflows that perform said task and are associated with domains that include said target, said set of one more workflows includes said first workflow,

reporting said set of one more workflows,

receiving from a user a selection of said first workflow, and

performing one or more steps of said first workflow.

8.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said step of performing includes identifying workflows for said task, identifying domains associated with said workflows for said task, and receiving from a user a selection of said first workflow.

9.   (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said steps of associating, receiving and performing are performed by an integrated identity and access system.

10.   (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said request is for self-registration.

11.   (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said request is from a parent workflow; and

said first workflow is a sub-workflow to said parent workflow.

12.   (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said data structure is a hierarchical data structure; and

each domain identifies an entry in said hierarchical data structure and additional entries below said entry.

13.   (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein:

said hierarchical data structure includes an LDAP directory.

14.   (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices having processor readable code embodied on said processor readable storage devices, said processor readable code for programming one or more processors to perform a method comprising the steps of:

associating workflows with domains in a data structure, each domain identifies a portion of said data;

receiving a request to perform a task that pertains to said data structure; and

performing a first workflow for said task, said first workflow is associated with a first domain that includes a target of said ~~request.~~ request;

wherein:

said first workflow comprises a predefined set of steps that perform said task, said predefined set of steps comprising a first step and a second step;

said first step is performed by a first program;

said second step is performed by a second program;

information is passed between said first program and said second program according to a defined set of rules; and

at least one of the first program and the second program is external to the workflow.

15.   (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 14, wherein:

said step of associating includes associating said first workflow with said first domain, said step of associating said first workflow includes choosing a first entry in said data structure, said data structure is a hierarchical data structure, said first domain includes said first entry and entries below said first entry.

16.   (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 15, wherein:

said step of performing includes identifying one or more workflows associated with said target.

17.   (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 14, wherein:

said request includes an identification of said target;

said step of performing includes identifying a set of one more workflows that perform said task and are associated with domains that include said target, said set of one more workflows includes said first workflow.

18.   (Previously Presented) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 14, wherein:

said request includes an identification of said target; and

said step of performing includes the steps of:

identifying a set of one more workflows that perform said task and are associated with domains that include said target, said set of one more workflows includes said first workflow,

reporting said set of one more workflows,

receiving from a user a selection of said first workflow, and

performing one or more steps of said first workflow.

19.   (Previously Presented) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 14, wherein:

said step of performing includes identifying workflows for said task, and identifying domains associated with said workflows for said task, receiving from a user a selection of said first workflow.

20.   (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 14, wherein:

said steps of associating, receiving and performing are performed by an integrated identity and access system.

21.   (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 14, wherein:

said request is from a parent workflow; and

said first workflow is a sub-workflow to said parent workflow.

22.   (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 14, wherein:

said data structure is a hierarchical data structure; and

each domain identifies an entry in said hierarchical data structure and additional entries below said entry.

23.   (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 22, wherein:

said hierarchical data structure includes an LDAP directory.

24.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus that uses workflows, comprising:

a communication interface;

one or more processor in communication with said communication interface, said one or more processors perform a method comprising the steps of:

associating workflows with domains in a data structure, each domain identifies a portion of said data,

receiving a request to perform a task that pertains to said data structure, and

performing a first workflow for said task, said first workflow is associated with a first domain that includes a target of said ~~request.~~ request;

wherein:

said first workflow comprises a predefined set of steps that perform said task, said predefined set of steps comprising a first step and a second step;

said first step is performed by a first program;

said second step is performed by a second program;

information is passed between said first program and said second program according to a defined set of rules; and

at least one of the first program and the second program is external to the workflow.

25.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

said step of associating includes associating said first workflow with said first domain, said step of associating said first workflow includes choosing a first entry in said data structure, said data structure is a hierarchical data structure, said first domain includes said first entry and entries below said first entry.

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26.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 25, wherein:

said step of performing includes identifying one or more workflows associated with said target and entries in said hierarchical data structure that are above said target.

27.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

said request includes an identification of said target;

said step of performing includes identifying a set of one more workflows that perform said task and are associated with domains that include said target, said set of one more workflows includes said first workflow.

28.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

said request includes an identification of said target; and

said step of performing includes the steps of:

identifying a set of one more workflows that perform said task and are associated with domains that include said target, said set of one more workflows includes said first workflow,

reporting said set of one more workflows,

receiving from a user a selection of said first workflow, and

performing one or more steps of said first workflow.

29.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

said step of performing includes identifying workflows for said task, and identifying domains associated with said workflows for said task, receiving from a user a selection of said first workflow.

30.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

said one or more processors are part of an integrated identity and access system.

31.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

said request is from a parent workflow; and

said first workflow is a sub-workflow to said parent workflow.

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32.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein:

said data structure is a hierarchical data structure; and

each domain identifies an entry in said hierarchical data structure and additional entries below said entry.

33.   (Original) An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein:

said hierarchical data structure includes an LDAP directory.

34.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said target is a target identity profile, and wherein said task comprises managing said target identity profile.

35.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, wherein managing said identity profile comprises one or more tasks selected from the group consisting of: creating a user, deleting a user, changing a user attribute, creating a group, deleting a group, and changing a group attribute.

36.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, wherein managing said identity profile comprises managing a certificate associated with said identity profile.

37. – 38. (Canceled)